

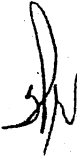
**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**



Senior Deputy Director
for Health Care Finance

**Medical Assistance Program
Transmittal No: 03-29**

TO: All District of Columbia Physician Providers

FROM:  Wanda R. Tucker
Interim Senior Deputy Director
Medical Assistance Administration

DATE: July 31, 2003

SUBJECT: Transition of D.C. Specific Local Codes to HIPAA Compliant Codes

The Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) is required to achieve compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's (HIPAA) mandated transaction standards, code sets and identifiers by October 16, 2003.

MAA has devised many local codes for the District's Physician providers to accommodate special needs and circumstances; however, the HIPAA transactions, code sets and identifiers rules do not permit the use of local code values after October 16, 2003. MAA has cross-walked all active Physician local codes to standard codes.

To assist the District's Medicaid Physician providers with the transition to standard codes, MAA has enclosed an Addendum to the Physician Provider billing manual that provides a cross-walk between the current local codes and standard codes and changes to the Physician Provider billing manual. Additionally, the proposed transition from local codes to standard codes will not change the current reimbursement payment(s) for the District Medicaid Physician providers.

Please note that, effective August 31, 2003 MAA will discontinue the use of current local codes for the Physician providers. Medicaid claims submitted by the District of Columbia Physician providers for services rendered on or after September 1, 2003 should be submitted only using the standard codes.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this transmittal, please call MAA's Fiscal Agent, ACS State Healthcare's Provider Relations Inquiry Desk at (866) 752-9233.

Attachment: Local Code Crosswalk Addendum and Billing Manual Revision(s) – Physician Providers